

# By the Queene.

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*A Proclamation for bringing into the Realme of vnlawfull and  
seditious bookes.*



Whereas diuers bookes made or translated by certayne the  
Queenes Maiesties subiectes, for the moze part remainyng  
on the other syde of the sea, without lawfull licence, contay-  
ning sundry matters repugnaunt to trueth, derogatorie to  
the soueraigne estate of her Maiestie, and stirring and nou-  
rishing sedition in this Realme, are commonly in secrete sort  
here dispearsed by malicious persons among sundry her  
Maiesties subiectes, to thintent to drawe them to errour,  
and withdraue them sediciously from their dueties and allegiance due to her Maiestie,  
as their onely soueraigne. For redresse hereof, lyke as of late tyme some mylde example  
hath ben made in the starre chamber at westminster, in correction of certayne persons  
founde faultie in the secrete dispearsing, buying, and allowing of sundry of the sayde sediti-  
ous bookes: So her Maiestie meaning of her clemencie neither to haue any aduun-  
tage taken for thinges herein alredy past, nor any her honest and quiet subiectes to be en-  
tangled with the lyke hereafter for lacke of admonition in due tyme: wylleth and earnest-  
ly chargeth all maner of persons, to forbear vtterly from the vse or dealing with any such  
seditious bookes, made or translated by any person, contayning matter derogatorie to the  
soueraigne estate of her Maiestie, or impugning the orders and rites established by lawe for  
Christian religion and deuine seruice within this Realme, or other wyse stirring and nou-  
rishing matter tending to sedition: and that such as alredy haue any of the sayde bookes,  
shall present, or cause to be presented the sayde bookes, within twentie and eyght dayes af-  
ter the publishing of this proclamation, to the byshop of the diocesse, or ordinarie of the  
place, and to receaue of hym a testimoniall of the tyme of the deliuerie thereof: and without  
expresse licence in wytyng of the sayde byshop or ordinarie, or some archbyshop, or other  
byshop of the Realme, not to kepe or reade any seditious bookes, vpon payne of her Maie-  
sties greuous indignation, and to be punished severely, as the qualitie and circumstaun-  
ces of the offence shall require and deserue.

Given at her Maiesties pallaice of westminster, the first day of March, 1568, the eleuenth  
yere of her Maiesties raigne.

God saue the Queene.

Imprinted at London in Powles  
Churchyarde by Richarde Fugge and John Cawood, Printers to the  
Queenes Maicstie.

Cum priuilegio Regie Maiestat.

has been due to such a reduction in the number of

God save the Queen.

Printed at London in Powles

Printed by Richard Figg and John Cusack, Printers to the  
Queen's Majesty.

Cum privilegio Regis Maiestatis.



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By the Queene.

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*A proclamation to repressse all piracies and depredations vpon the Seas.*



As much as it is come to the Queenes Maiesties vnderstanding, by meanes of certayne complayntes, as well by her owne subiectes as others, that there are sundry persons vpon the narrow Seas, of diuers nations, and some borne within her Maiesties dominions, hauyng shippes armed in warlike maner, who partly at the first went manifestly to the Seas in maner of marchauntes, & haue afterwarde by sinister meanes chaunged their trade, and armed them selues for the warre: some others haue secretly stolen out of obscure places, with a pretence in these troublesome tymes, that are seene as well eastwarde betwixt the kingdome of Denmarke & Sweden, and their adherentes, as westwarde in the dominions of Fraunce, both lamentable to beholde, to serue on the Seas either on the one part or the other, and yet in deede haue at length directed them selues from all lefull seruice of warres, to lyue as pirates, robbing and spoyling al maner of honest marchauntes of euery nation without difference, whom they are able to subdue. For remedy wherof, although her Maiestie hath of late tyme geuen certayne strayte orders through all her portes, that no maner of persons, other then known marchauntes, shoulde be suffered to sell or distribute any maner of wares or marchaundises in any her portes, nor that any within her Realme should bittayle, or otherwise relieue any maner of person any wise to be suspected of piracie. Yet now vpon these newe complayntes, her Maiestie findyng that therby hath solowed no such ful remedy as was looked for: for that purpose her Maiestie hath thought meete to deuise & publishe by her proclamation some further effectual remedy. And therfore doth straitly charge & comaunde al maner her subiectes, to forbear from aydyng or receauyng of any pirate, or any person hauyng not lefull auctoritie from her Maiestie, or not beyng a known marchant, by contractyng, bying, sellyng, or exchaungyng, or by bittaylyng of them or any of their companie, whereby they or any of them shalbe the more enabled to returne to the Seas to commit any piracie or disorder, vpon payne for so doyng to be punished presently, as the principall offendours and pirates ought to be. And furthermore, whosoener shall hereafter arme or prepare any vessel to the sea, except it be such as shall by her Maiesties auctoritie be specially appoynted to kepe the Seas, as her Maiestie now is occasioned to do for some other respectes, or such as shall haue expresse licence and permission by her Maiestie: the same shall geue knowledge to the officers of the portes of their whole furniture, who shal duely searche and visite the same, to the intent to stay such persons as apparauntly shalbe so furnished for the warres, and not for marchaundise or fishyng. And if there shalbe any maner of suspition, that the sayde person though he shall pretende to trade for marchaundise or fishyng, hath or may haue any intent by his prouisions or furniture, otherwise then to vse the trade of marchandise, or fishyng: that in such case of suspition, the officers of the portes shall stay, and no wise suffer the same to passe to the Seas, without good bandes by sufficient suerties first had, to vse nothyng but a lefull trade of marchaundise or fishyng. And yf the officers shall suffer any person otherwise to repaire to the Seas then aboue is mentioned, they shall not only aunswere for any piracies which any such person shall chaunce thereafter to do vpon the Sea: but shall suffer imprisonment vntill the offendours may be apprehended, if they shalbe lyuyng. And generally her Maiestie declareth and denounceth all such pirates and rousers vpon the Seas to be out of her protection, and lefully to be by any person taken, punished, and suppressed with extremite.

Geuen at her Maiesties Pallace of westminster, the. xxii. day of April, the. xi. yere of her Maiesties most noble raigne.

God saue the Queene.

Imprinted at London in Powles

Churchyarde by Richarde Iugge and John Cawood,  
Printers to the Queenes Maiestie.

*Cum priuilegio Regie Maiestatis.*